

May 23, 2021

St. Thomas's Episcopal Parish  
276 S. College Ave Newark, DE  
302.368.4644 StThomasParish.org

weekly newsletter

# The Carpenter's Helper

*This Week...we Celebrate the FIRE of the Holy Spirit!*



## Drive Through/Walk Up Communion and Prayers

continues every Sunday  
10-11am

ALL are Welcome!

## Summer Worship Schedule (June, July, August)

**Wednesday**, 12 noon  
Intercessory Prayer

**Thursday**, 7 pm  
Evening Compline



**Sunday**  
8 am, Rite 1 spoken  
9:30 am, Rite 2 with music



Thank you for wearing a mask in the church building.  
It protects those who are worshiping, and communing.  
Your mask protects the clergy, staff, faith family members, and community.  
Let's keep our church building safe, healthy, open, and a respectful place for all.

### **During the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Thomas's is alive and well.**

We are worshiping via live streaming on YouTube (See our YouTube Channel and hit Subscribe!). The full-text bulletins for our services can be found on our website, and by email request.

We also continue to respond to the needs of the Newark community through our collaboration with the Newark Empowerment Center and others. Those who would like to support our work may do so by going to our "Giving to St Thomas's" page.

Our prayers are with all those who are ill, all who are caring for them, and all who are striving to hear the voice of God in these challenging times. May God bless you and keep you, now and always. For more, see the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware COVID-19 site.

# Eye Spy **SEEING RED**

This Sunday is Pentecost! It is the celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after his Ascension.

Around the church you will see signs of this occasion with splashes of red and gold. The fabrics you will see at the front of the sanctuary are the next round of renewed altar fabrics. The ribbon frontal was created by Sally and Martha. Sally also made the pulpit fall, and Martha sewed the burse. And, the bookmarks were originally made by Beryl, and refurbished by Cana.

Fr Howie's vestments will show the eye-catching reds and golds, and traditionally the St Thomas congregation also worn these spirited colors. *But, why?* For a long time in England, the color worn for this Sunday was white, hence the term Whitsunday. **Red is associated with the heat of energy, passion and love. Red symbolizes immediate action, confidence, courage, and change. Red is the warmest and most dynamic of the colors, and next to luminous gold, it reminds us of flames.**

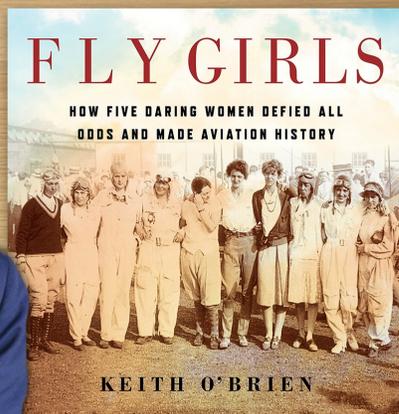
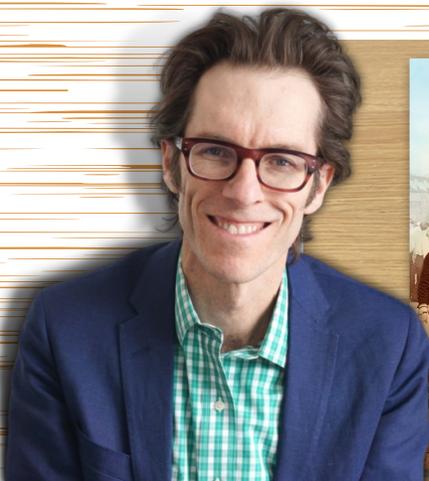
With that context for these colors, it makes sense that we associate them with Pentecost. It symbolizes joy and the fire, recalling the fiery tongues that descended upon the Apostles when they received the Holy Spirit.

The festival of Pentecost celebrates the birth of the church. The Holy Spirit came upon the faithful disciples of Jesus to inspire and energize them- and us in turn. They told the story of what God had done for them in Jesus; they preached, they baptized, they healed, they formed communities, and they invited the world to join them, just as we strive to do. We boldly wear red on this day as an outward sign of the Spirit's flames warming in all of us: joyfully illuminating, and fueling the greater Glory of God!



MAY NOVEL THEOLOGY  
SUNDAY, MAY 23RD AT 10:30AM  
LIVE VIA ZOOM

*All are Welcome!*



If she came off as **too weak**,  
she might be denied the trip.  
If she came off as **too strong, too beautiful**  
or, in her words,  
**"too fascinating"**  
she might lose on that count too